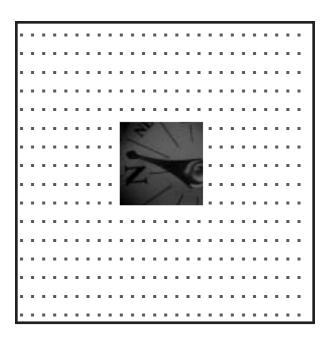


MIAMI-DADE COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN



# NEIGHBORHOOD AND UNINCORPORATED AREA MUNICIPAL SERVICES MISSION STATEMENT

"To provide efficient, accountable, accessible, and courteous neighborhood services that enhance quality of life and involve the community."



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN

### Introduction

The Neighborhood and Unincorporated Area Municipal Services

Strategic Area component of the Countywide Strategic Plan was developed based on the cornerstones of our strategic plan: Our Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles and Strategic Themes. These global statements were developed through an extensive outreach process and through identification of the strengths and weaknesses of our County government, and future trends that may impact our ability to provide services.

This section provides detailed information on the County's Neighborhood and Unincorporated Area Municipal Services Strategic Area component of the Miami-Dade County Strategic Plan.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN

# Background & Trends

that have or may impact
Miami-Dade County's ability to
provide or improve services that
impact neighborhoods
throughout Miami-Dade
County (e.g., water and sewer,
waste collection and disposal,
environmental protections, etc.)
and municipal service delivery
in unincorporated Miami-Dade
County. The strengths and
weaknesses of our County
government to meet these
challenges were also identified.

The most significant trend related to the Neighborhood and Unincorporated Area Municipal Services Strategic Area is the recent incorporations and the potential for other ones under review. Since a moratorium on new incorporations was lifted in 1990, eight cities were created and today there are eight more proposed cities in various stages of the incorporation process. Interest in incorporation is due to many interrelated factors. First, the population in

unincorporated Miami-Dade
County has grown from 980,000 in
1990 to 1.2 million in 2000, an
increase of more than 20%. Such a
high rate of growth has brought
with it an increased demand for
high quality municipal services,
such as community planning,
neighborhood parks, roadway
aesthetics, and code compliance
in the unincorporated area. Other
reasons for the growing interest in
incorporation include a desire for
governments closer to home and
greater neighborhood identity.

#### NEIGHBORHOOD AND UNINCORPORATED AREA MUNICIPAL SERVICES STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED

#### **STRENGTHS**

Strengths identified include the technologies now available to Miami-Dade County employees. State-of-the-art tools can make Miami-Dade County employees more productive and competitive when compared to municipalities for delivering key services. In addition, Miami-Dade County government's long history of comprehensive planning is an important strength. With population growth beginning to place pressure on Miami-Dade County's urban boundaries, the use of sound planning principles takes on greater importance.

#### **WEAKNESSES**

Results from the 2003 **Resident Satisfaction** Survey showing high levels of distrust in Miami-Dade County government encourage further incorporation and make it more difficult for Miami-Dade County government to build community consensus for programs and for delivering services.

#### **CHALLENGES**

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

The incorporation movement has brought with it the opportunity to compete with new municipalities and established cities to deliver municipal services. Increased competition will require Miami-Dade County government to be more proactive in identifying the services that matter most to residents and help foster improved quality of life.

The goals, desired outcomes and strategies developed by the community and Miami-Dade County staff in the Neighborhood and Unincorporated Area Municipal Services Strategic Area Plan build upon our strengths, address our weaknesses. and take advantage of the opportunities identified.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN



### Goals

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Vision

PROVIDE EFFICIENT,
CONSISTENT, AND
APPROPRIATE GROWTH
MANAGEMENT, URBAN
PLANNING, AND
TRANSPORTATION
DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES

Miami-Dade County continues to experience growth of approximately 30,000 new residents each year. During most public outreach activities held in conjunction with the strategic planning process, residents expressed their concern about unplanned growth and urban sprawl. Initiatives such as "Eastward-Ho" have focused on promoting urban infill and mixed use developments, maximizing

utilization of resources in providing the necessary infrastructure and services to the community while, at the same time, protecting environmentally sensitive lands and agricultural lands outside the urban development boundary.

However, successful urban infill

can only be accomplished with the involvement of impacted communities. In recent years, the County has expanded the use of charrettes, working with the community to improve urban design in targeted areas, including infill areas.

SURVEY QUESTION (RESIDENTS COUNTYWIDE)	RESPONSES
How do you rate the development	36% Good
of land use & zoning across the County?	32% So-So
	32% Poor
How would you rate	46% Good
the development and land use/zoning	27% So-So
in your neighborhood?	26% Poor
Land development/zoning would	50% Agree
improve after incorporating?	31% Neither Agree nor Disagree
	20% Disagree
How would you rate the overall	50% Good
appearance of Miami-Dade County?	34% So-So
	15% Poor

DESIRED OUTCOMES	STRATEGIES	PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE / KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR(S)
Increased urban infill development and decreased urban sprawl (priority outcome)	■ Educate the community on the purpose and benefits of the urban development boundary and the importance of agricultural and environmentally sensitive lands as well as natural areas	<ul> <li>Two suitable locations per year identified for mixed-use development</li> <li>New infill development and infill redevelopment projects per year</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Promote infill inside the urban development boundary, including promotion and cooperation with municipalities</li> </ul>	
Protection of viable agriculture and environmentally-sensitive lands (priority outcome)	■ Work with the agricultural industry and the community to review and revise policies and codes to maintain current viable agricultural and environmentally sensitive land	No net loss of agricultural or environmentally sensitive lands
Improved community design (priority outcome)	■ Identify strategic areas and neighborhoods in need of improved urban design within each commission district	■ 80% of residents satisfied with urban planning and design in their neighborhoods
	■ Target better planning and urban design to these areas through charettes, integrated infrastructure development, and promotion of mixed-use developments	■ 90% of residents satisfied with urban planning and design in neighborhoods with planned improvements in urban design
	■ Identify and promote areas with maximum potential for urban infill, including areas for increased density as appropriate	
	<ul><li>Identify infrastructure needs in infill areas</li></ul>	
	■ Prioritize recommended improvements to these areas	
	■ Ensure that infrastructure improvements are implemented in compliance with these locally-developed plans	
	■ Provide ongoing neighborhood assistance	

# Mission Goals O AL

# EMPOWER THE COMMUNITY BY INCREASING COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION WITH LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL ENTITIES

As Miami-Dade County continues to grow, it becomes more challenging for residents to feel involved with decisions that directly impact their lives. Initiatives such as a centralized call center with access to a knowledge base of all County services and the web portal are designed to enhance communication with the community.

Strategies to alleviate these concerns include increasing the number of tools available to foster additional interaction between County government and customers.



SURVEY QUESTION (RESIDENTS COUNTYWIDE)	RESPONSES
It is easy to express my opinion to the County government on matters that affect me	28% Agree 34% Neither Agree nor Disagree 38% Disagree
County government communicates to residents on a timely basis regarding matters affecting them	27% Agree 30% Neither Agree nor Disagree 43% Disagree
Overall, how satisfied were you with your latest contact with the County?	47% Satisfied 20% Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied 33% Dissatisfied
The employees that assisted me were courteous and professional	52% Agree 19% Neither Agree nor Disagree 29% Disagree
The employees that assisted me went the extra mile to get my issue heard and resolved	33% Agree 20% Neither Agree nor Disagree 47% Disagree
I was able to get my question/ concern resolved	50% Agree 13% Neither Agree nor Disagree 37% Disagree

DESIRED OUTCOMES	STRATEGIES	PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE / KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR(S)
Strengthened bond between the community and Miami-Dade County government (priority outcome)	<ul> <li>Establish listening posts and focus groups to obtain community input and feedback on relevant community issues and provide timely response to issues raised</li> <li>Expand the local community presence of the Board of County Commissioners and other local officials though outreach and technology</li> </ul>	■ 80% of residents satisfied with available mechanisms for community involvement
Improved community access to information and services (priority outcome)	<ul> <li>Provide more information through the answer center and County web portal site</li> <li>Utilize the County's digital branding project to encourage the use of all County electronic channels</li> </ul>	■ 80% of residents satisfied with information delivery systems
Well-trained, customer-friendly County government workforce (priority outcome)	■ Enhance customer service training by expanding interagency training within County government and with federal and state agencies	■ A quality rating of at least four out of five for employee customer service

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# AND EFFECTIVE MEANS TO ACHIEVE CODE COMPLIANCE

Miami-Dade County is responsible for code enforcement throughout the unincorporated area. Sound neighborhood codes foster safety and help beautify neighborhoods, particularly building and unsafe structure codes. However, strategic planning participants believed it is critical to foster code compliance instead of reactive

#### 2003 MIAMI-DADE COUNTY RESIDENT SURVEY RESULTS

SURVEY QUESTION (RESIDENTS COUNTYWIDE)	RESPONSES
How do you rate the Building Code Enforcement and Permit Process?	33% Good 30% So-So
Coue Inforcement and Fermit Frocess:	37% Poor
How do you rate the amount	62% Not a Problem
of run-down houses and buildings	24% Minor Problem
in your neighborhood?	14% Major Problem
How do you rate the Police	55% Good
regarding their enforcement	25% So-So
of basic standards of conduct (e.g. traffic, noise, loitering)?	20% Poor

code enforcement. The County's ability to act proactively would result in greater awareness of the code and higher levels of compliance.



#### DESIRED OUTCOMES

Resident and business voluntary compliance with County codes (priority outcome)

#### **STRATEGIES**

- Expand community education sessions (including citizens' academy, outreach sessions, etc.)
- Provide enhanced information with warning notices to facilitate compliance with tickets as well as knowledge and understanding to enhance compliance in the future
- Review and re-evaluate codes to ensure appropriate first actions for a code violation

# PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE / KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR(S)

■ 80% of residents aware of critical knowledge factors of code compliance

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

#### **STRATEGIES**

# PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE / KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR(S)

- Timely identification and remediation of nuisances, including unsafe structures (priority outcome)
- Provide timely and consistent remediation services for nuisances
- Focus pro-active enforcement of unsafe structures in older areas of the County
- Utilize expedited process for demolition of residential structures under Chapter 17B of the existing code
- Establish a uniform integrated complaint system to avoid duplication of unsafe structure cases between departments

- 90% of unsafe structure cases opened during the last 24 month have been closed
- 80% of nuisances remediated within pre-defined timeframe

- Consistent interpretation and application of enforcement practices
- Develop and maintain educated code compliance staff
- Ensure adequate and equitable distribution of enforcement staffing and resources
- Periodically review code regulations

■ 80% of customers satisfied with services provided in each district

# Mission Goals Outcom G Outcom

#### ENACT PROGRAMS TO BEAUTIFY AND IMPROVE URBAN AND RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Throughout the strategic planning process, the importance of improved neighborhood aesthetics was a recurring theme. In recent years, initiatives such as Image 2000 and the Community Image Advisory Board, increased mowing cycles, and increased litter pick-up at bus stops and on major arterials have been implemented to improve the aesthetics of the community. Results from Miami-Dade County's 2003 Resident Satisfaction Survey show that the County is fairly well perceived in this area. However, the survey also showed that well-maintained roads and medians, landscaped public space, and removal of litter and graffiti directly correlate to how people are satisfied with Miami-Dade County overall.



SURVEY QUESTION (RESIDENTS COUNTYWIDE)	RESPONSES
How would you rate the overall	50% Good
appearance of Miami-Dade County?	34% So-So
	15% Poor
Street cleanliness/smoothness	38% Good
	35% So-So
	26% Poor
Litter, debris, abandoned cars	58% Not a Problem
,	28% Minor Problem
	14% Major Problem
Vacant lots or abandoned properties	63% Not a Problem
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	24% Minor Problem
	13% Major Problem
Road and street maintenance would	59% Probably Improve
improve if we incorporate	27% Stay the Same
, ,	13% Probably get Worse

#### PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE **OBJECTIVE / KEY PERFORMANCE DESIRED OUTCOMES** INDICATOR(S) **STRATEGIES** ■ Enhance roadway and rights-■ 90% of roadways and Neighborhood and rights-ofway aesthetics that foster of-way landscape maintenance rights of way clean and and enhance quality of life by expanding to arterials and well-maintained increasing the frequency of (priority outcome) ■ 80% of residents and visitors existing maintenance rating County neighborhoods ■ Incorporate native/droughtas aesthetically pleasing tolerant species in landscaping to facilitate future maintenance ■ Increase public, private and partnership participation in adopting portions of the County roadways, natural areas, etc. ■ Increase litter pick-up and removal between routine maintenance cycles ■ Increase enforcement coordination among County departments to reduce illegal dumping and littering ■ Pursue local and state incentives and other initiatives to reduce litter through recycling, biodegradable materials, etc. ■ Educate the public to reduce litter and illegal dumping Timely repair and replacement of ■ Review, revise and enforce all ■ 80% compliance with landscape-related County code damaged property replacement and repair (landscape, roadway widths, time standards medians, tree canopy, etc.) to enhance neighborhood beauty (consistent with safety, environmental regulations, etc.) ■ Work with local communities to identify opportunities for beautification ■ Ensure sufficient resources to meet demand for replacement of damaged property ■ Improve the process to deploy replacement inventory in compliance with replacement

time standards by type of property being replaced



# PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND UNIQUE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTS

Ensuring the preservation of our community's natural resources and unique environmental qualities is critical to future generations. There is a strong

desire in the community that
Miami-Dade County
government must be proactive in
protecting the environment. A
vibrant local environment

including clean beaches, preserved wetlands, and abundant agricultural and green spaces are important for ensuring a high quality of life.

SURVEY QUESTION (RESIDENTS COUNTYWIDE)	RESPONSES
How do you rate Miami-Dade County's Water Service and Treatment?	59% Good 28% So-So 13% Poor
How do you rate environmental protection within Miami-Dade County?	47% Good 36% So-So 17% Poor

DESIRED OUTCOMES	STRATEGIES	PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE / KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR(S)
Continuing supplies of quality drinking water to meet demand	■ Protect existing public water supply well and well fields	■ 100% compliance with water quality standards
	<ul> <li>Provide public education regarding water conservation and pollution control</li> <li>Evaluate and implement options to increase water availability (including reuse, aquifer storage and recovery, and other alternative water supply sources)</li> <li>Ensure that treatment and delivery meets or exceeds existing water standards</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reduction in average water use per capita</li> <li>Water and sewer infrastructure capacity that exceeds 102% of maximum daily flow for the preceding year</li> <li>Increase in the acreage retained or created to enhance aquifer recharge/water storage capacity</li> </ul>

#### PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE **OBJECTIVE / KEY PERFORMANCE DESIRED OUTCOMES STRATEGIES** INDICATOR(S) Restoration of County ■ Improve clean-up after County ■ 95% of County site areas construction project site areas construction projects to restored to original condition to original conditions in a reduce pollution within stated contract period timely manner ■ Acquire and maintain Preservation of wetlands and ■ 95% acquisition of the environmentally endangered environmentally valuable uplands remaining 34,000+ acres of lands from willing sellers potentially available environmentally endangered ■ Provide incentives for lands by 2015 landowners to preserve and maintain environmentally valuable land ■ Regulate land use to minimize loss of wetlands and other environmentally important lands ■ Reduction in the number Reduced noise levels for ■ Evaluate and modify residents within the vicinity of existing arrival and of flight tracks over residential areas Miami-Dade Aviation departure procedures Department airports ■ Coordinate with land use planning efforts to maximize

compatibility of surrounding

■ Do not increase the number of flight tracks over residential areas

land uses

# vision Mission Goals O AL

OutcomPROVIDE TIMELY AND **RELIABLE PUBLIC** INFRASTRUCTURE **SERVICES INCLUDING ROAD MAINTENANCE,** STORM WATER, **SOLID WASTE AND** WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT, **AND A SAFE AND CLEAN WATER DELIVERY SYSTEM CONSISTENT WITH THE** COMPREHENSIVE **DEVELOPMENT** MASTER PLAN (CDMP)

> As the County continues to grow, sidewalks, roadways, sewage systems, and drainage systems need to be built or enhanced where they already exist and existing infrastructure must be proactively maintained. In addition, strategic planning participants believe that this goal is closely related to other goals in the County's strategic plan. For example, building traffic-calming devices enhances neighborhood aesthetics and encouraging safe water and sewage systems helps protect our environmental assets and other natural resources. Finally improved infrastructure policies require more input and communication with residents and community organizations.



SURVEY QUESTION (RESIDENTS COUNTYWIDE)	RESPONSES
Quality of roadways and road signs	51% Good 31% So-So 18% Poor
How do you rate the following service, program, or attribute? —Storm Drainage	30% Good 30% So-So 40% Poor
How do you rate the following as an issue in your neighborhood? —Flooding	32% Not a Problem 31% Minor Problem 37% Major Problem
To what extent do you agree that the County is pedestrian friendly?	34% Agree 29% Neither Agree nor Disagree 38% Disagree

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

#### **STRATEGIES**

# PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE / KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR(S)

Improved neighborhood roadways, sidewalks, drainage, and reduced flooding (priority outcome)

- Develop inventory of existing roadway, sidewalk, and drainage maintenance needs
- Improve outreach efforts for timely identification of problem areas, including facilitation of identification of jurisdictional responsibilities
- Develop and implement process to inspect roadway, sidewalk, and drainage infrastructure for preventive maintenance
- Implement management information system to prioritize service requirements and to identify funding sources
- Allocate necessary resources to provide level-of-service desired by the public
- Enhance drainage systems pursuant to the storm water master plan and by increasing canal dredging, including secondary canals

- 80% of roadway, sidewalk, and drainage infrastructure surveyed in satisfactory condition
- Reduce by 75% the number of repetitive flood damage claims at the same location

Reduction in sewage overflows and provision of sewage systems to unconnected commercial corridors; protection of water quality and improved water pressure

- Prioritize water and sewer improvements, including areas needing sewer service connections
- Educate the community on costs of the improvements
- Pursue funding for identified improvements, including alternative funding sources
- No reportable overflows resulting in warning letters from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection or the Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resource Management
- Reduction in response time for sewage system overflows
- 100% of the water system primary distribution points maintained at least 20 lbs per square inch of pressure 100% of the time

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

#### **STRATEGIES**

## PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE / KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR(S)

Improved public infrastructure level-of-service standards and policies

- Maintain a dialogue with residents and the development industry to identify strengths and weaknesses of existing level-of-service and impact fees standards and policies
- Improve land acquisition processes for public infrastructure
- Enhance coordination between impact fees and level-of-service infrastructure improvements
- Maximize communication between agencies involved in the process

- 100% compliance with level-of service standards contained in the CDMP
- 80% of residents satisfied with infrastructure level-of-service provided

Integrated traffic calming in neighborhoods

- Review and enhance County standards to provide for traffic calming in new developments
- Analyze, revise and enforce laws for speeding in local neighborhoods
- 100% compliance with regulatory speeds on neighborhood roads

Safe, comfortable and convenient pedestrian rights-of-way

- Develop pedestrian-friendly standards for sidewalks and other pedestrian rights-of-way
- Ensure safe pedestrian routes to schools
- Maximize safe pedestrian access to parks, government facilities and high traffic area
- 90% of residents satisfied with pedestrian rights-ofway in Miami-Dade County

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN

## The Development Process

The development of the Strategic Area Plan for the Neighborhood and Unincorporated Area Municipal Services included the participation of Community Planning Team members that worked with County staff in guiding the project through completion:

#### Kenneth Bluh

#### John Bolton

President

Florida Engineering Society

#### Mike Brazlavsky

American Institute of Architects

#### **Bertha Carswell**

Community Council 8

#### Rosa Davis

#### William Delgado

Latin Builders Association

#### Victor Dover

Dover, Kohl & Partners

#### Kenneth Freidman

Community Council 2

#### Mike Hatcher

#### Tim Hyman

Jesse Jones President Doral Colony

#### Timothy Keegan

Community Council 7

#### Lynda Kompelien

Executive Director Community Redevelopment Agency

#### Michael Miller

Executive Editor
Community Newspapers

#### **Stanley Price**

Bilzin, Sumberg, Dunn, Baena, Price & Axelrod

#### **Sharon Pritchett**

Community Council 3

#### Wayne Slaton

Mayor

Town of Miami Lakes

These individuals provided the leadership and community expertise needed to make the Neighborhood and Unincorporated Area Municipal Services Strategic Area Plan a success by:

Providing communications linkages to the organizations they worked with every day and with members of their community;

- Interacting with the strategic planning team composed of County staff and with the planning and communications consultants for the project; and
- Providing necessary input throughout the strategic planning process, and interfacing with staff to help develop specific goals, strategies, and objectives within the Neighborhood and Unincorporated Area Municipal Services Strategic Area.

Working together these teams identified strengths and weaknesses, opportunities, challenges and future trends affecting neighborhood and unincorporated area municipal services in Miami-Dade County, drafted a strategic area mission statement, and drafted preliminary strategic goals. Also critical to the process were the existing plans and initiatives within the County, as much work had already been accomplished, including for example:





